

Wenatchee Fire & Rescue 2006 Annual Report



It is the mission of Wenatchee Fire & Rescue to provide the highest level of service and protection of life and property to the people who live, work, visit and invest in the City of Wenatchee and the surrounding community.

Fire Chief's Message



Under the direction of the Mayor and City Council, it is my pleasure to submit to the community the Wenatchee Fire & Rescue 2006 Annual Report. This report has been prepared to highlight the performance and activities accomplished by the Department and provide statistical information on the services offered by the Department. The accomplishments contained within this report could not have been accomplished without the collective effort of all the Department's Divisions and personnel. Many of these accomplishments are also the result of the collective effort of our various City Departments whose commitment and dedication continue to make our community a great place to live.

As the Interim Fire Chief for most of this past year, I established a motto in our stations that defines the organizational focus that will be an essential foundation to the Fire & Rescue Department as we move into 2007. The first affirmation is to **"Focus on People"**. The people in our Department are our most important resource and I am proud of their efforts and dedication to service. The people in our community are the purpose we exist; the customers we serve.

The second affirmation is to **"Build Trust"**. Trust is essential within the Department, in the community we serve, and in the relationships and partnerships we develop with other public safety agencies.

The third affirmation is **"Look to the Future"**. Our focus should not be on the past; it should be on the challenges and opportunities we will use to shape our future. During this past year it has been an honor for me to be part of the leadership team that is dedicated to meeting the service needs of today, while preparing for the challenges of tomorrow.

Interim Chief Stan Smoke

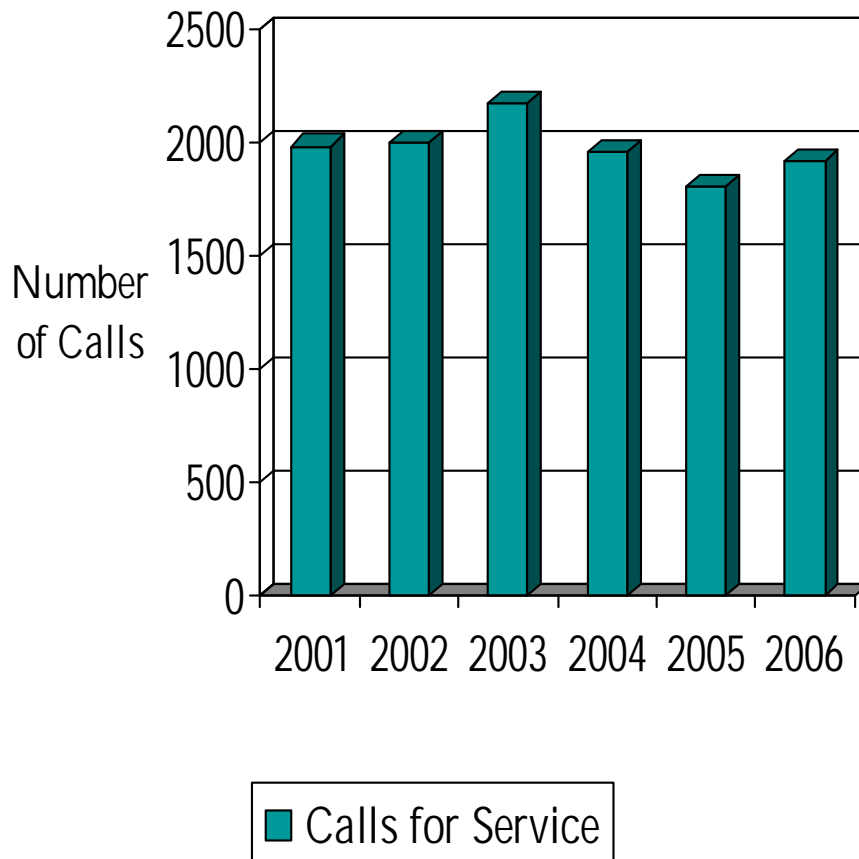
2006 Performance Measures

- **Measurements that gauge the Fire & Rescue Department's program efficiency and effectiveness relative to a meaningful standard or baseline.**
- **Performance and productivity measures that will allow comparison with other cities and fire departments.**
- **For this report, the measures are grouped into four categories:**
 - **General Information**
 - **Spending and Staffing (Inputs)**
 - **Work Load (Outputs)**
 - **Results (Outcome)**

2006 Performance Indicators

General Information – Total Number of Calls

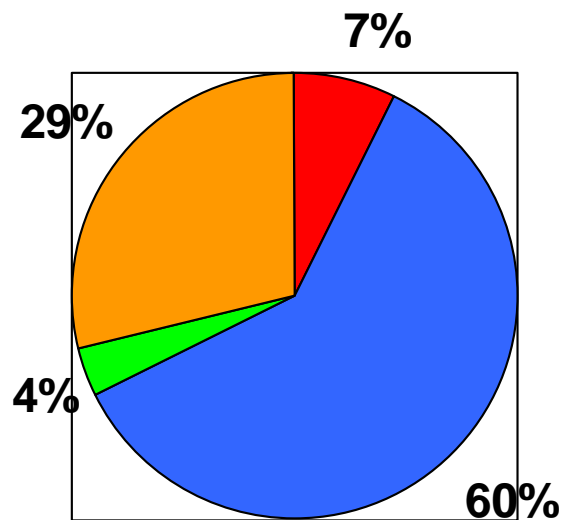
Six Year Call Trend



- The total number of calls for service in 2006 was 1918.
- In 2006 WF&R experienced a 6% increase in total runs over the previous year.
- 2006 calls represent a request for service on the average of 5.3 calls per day.

2006 Performance Indicators

General Information – Activity by Type



Activity by Type

- Fires – 142
- Medical – 1154
- Haz Mat – 70
- Other – 552
- Total Calls – 1918

“Other” includes false alarms, service calls, good intent calls and citizen complaints.

2006 Performance Indicators

Spending & Staffing – Spending All Programs

Wenatchee Fire & Rescue

- The cost of fire service protection per capita in 2006 was \$123.22. This figure is based on the 2006 Fire & Rescue Department budget of \$3,612,952 and a population of 29,320.

Comparables

- Cities used for comparison include Bremerton, Longview, Mt. Vernon, Pasco, Pullman, and Walla Walla.
- The average cost of fire service protection per capita for comparison cities in 2006 was \$139.99.

City	Budget	Pop.	Cost per Capita
Wenatchee	\$3,612,952	29,320	\$123.22
Bremerton	\$6,439,328	34,580	\$186.21
Longview	\$4,842,600	35,430	\$136.68
Mt. Vernon	\$3,912,488	28,210	\$138.69
Pasco	\$5,105,297	44,190	\$115.53
Pullman	\$3,413,187	26,590	\$128.36
Walla Walla	\$4,151,072	30,630	\$134.45
Comparables	Average	Cost	\$139.99

2006 Performance Indicators

Spending & Staffing – Staffing All Programs

Wenatchee Fire & Rescue

- The number of career firefighters per 1000 population in 2006 was 1.2. This figure is based on 34 career firefighters and a population of 29,320.

Comparables

- Cities used for comparison include Bremerton, Longview, Mt. Vernon, Pasco, Pullman, and Walla Walla.
- The average number of career firefighters in comparison cities in 2006 was also 1.2.

City	Population	Career FF	FF per 1000
Wenatchee	29,320	34	1.2
Bremerton	34,580	50	1.4
Longview	35,430	36	1.0
Mt.Vernon	28,210	35	1.2
Pasco	44,190	48	1.2
Pullman	26,590	20	.8
Walla Walla	30,630	45	1.5
Comparables	Average	Number	1.2

2006 Performance Indicators

Results – Response Times

Firefighters respond to a wide variety of situations, including fires, medical emergencies, traumatic injuries, rescues, and hazardous materials. The incidents are both unscheduled and urgent. The common factor in all these situations is the critical need for a rapid **response time**. One of the keys in judging a departments performance that maximizes the chance for positive outcomes is response time.

WA State House Bill passed into law by the 2005 Legislature requires career fire departments to establish **Response Standards** and requires annual reports to the elected officials concerning the outcomes. This table illustrates the 2006 Response Standards for Wenatchee Fire & Rescue and the performance or outcome for each required response standard.

2006 Response Standards

Type	Standard	Outcome
Turnout Time	60 seconds 90%	60 seconds 89%
Fire Response First Engine	5 minutes 90%	5 minutes 89%
Full Alarm Fire Response	8 minutes 90%	8 minutes 100%
Emergency Medical	5 minutes 90%	5 minutes 90%
Emergency Medical (ALS)	10 minutes 80%	10 minutes 90%
Haz Mat (Operations)	5 minutes 90%	5 minutes 90%
Haz Mat (Technician)	5 hours 90%	5 hours 90%

2006 Division Reports

Fire Administration – 2006 Work Plan

Administration Division

This division provides direction, administration and management of the department. The 2006 Work Plan reflects both short and long term goals and objectives to maximize the use of available resources to provide quality fire, EMS, and other fire protection services to the community.

The 2006 Work Plan was developed to provide clear goals and direction for the Department. The plan is broken down by operational areas to:

- Help establish budget (funding), time, and resource priorities
- Provide action plans for goal achievement
- A check list for monitoring progress

Goal	Objective	Outcome
Improve Department Communications	Provide weekly updates, monthly staff meetings, timely reporting	Objectives Accomplished
Encourage Fiscal Efficiency / Effectiveness	Budget reviews, planning, accountability program	Ongoing
Promote Cooperative Services with CCFD#1	Provide leadership through Fire Service Committee	Ongoing
Update / Revise Depart. Policies and SOG's	Coordinate program for policy updates and revisions	Approx. 75% completed
Encourage Dept. Rep. in Region	Increase Dept. rep. and participation	Ongoing
Coordinate Emergency Response Standard Reporting	Program for Response Standard compliance	Completed
Implement Promotional Exams	Establish AC and BC eligibility lists	Completed
Explore Station Relocation Strategies	Gather data, explore partnerships	Ongoing

2006 Division Reports

Fire Administration – 2006 Accomplishments

- Revised and updated the Department's Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines.
- Completed promotional exams and established current eligibility lists for Assistant Chief and Battalion Chief positions.
- Implemented cooperative service programs of Shared Command and Joint Training with Chelan County Fire District #1.
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- Completed and presented Shared Command six month report to Mayor & Council.
- Coordinated 2006 NIMS compliance for City.
- Hosted Washington State Fire Chief's Conference (July 11-14).
- Updated Department Responsibility / Accountability Model.
- Completed Department strategy and tactics training with Stewart Rose (Three 2-day classes).
- Purchased and started implementation of Firehouse records management system.
- Updated incident reporting procedures to meet State reporting requirements.

2006 Division Reports

Training - Requirements

Fire Suppression

- Strategy & Tactics
- Live Fire Training
- Search & Rescue
- Overhaul
- Rapid Intervention Teams
- Incident Command

Special Operations

- Wildland Fire Refresher *
- Shore-Based Water Rescue
- Confined Space *
- Rope Rescue *
- Hazardous Materials *

Emergency Medical

- EMT Refresher *
- Mass Casualty Incidents

Firefighter Safety

- Respiratory Protection *
- Asbestos Awareness *
- Hazard Communication *
- Hearing Conservation *
- Passport Accountability *
- Bloodborne / Airborne Pathogens *

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Quarterly Breathing Apparatus Competency *
- PPE Equipment Limitations *
- SCBA Limitations *

** Mandatory Annual Training*



2006 Division Reports

Training - New Recruits

2006 was a busy year for recruit training. Three recruits completed their first year training program.



Andy Davidson
June 2006



Peter Rigelman
October 2006



Lyle Stewart
October 2006

2006 Division Reports

Training & Operations - Joint Training

In 2006 the Joint Training Program with Chelan County Fire District #1 featured quarterly training.



Third quarter was Haz Mat And DeCon training.



The program began in the second quarter with Wildland Fire Refresher training.



Fourth quarter training covered auto extrication.

2006 Division Reports

Training & Operations - Strategy & Tactics

One of the Training Division goals in 2006 was to promote incident management.

In May the Department updated the Incident Command System (ICS) policy.

In November all personnel participated in a two day class on fire ground strategy and tactics.



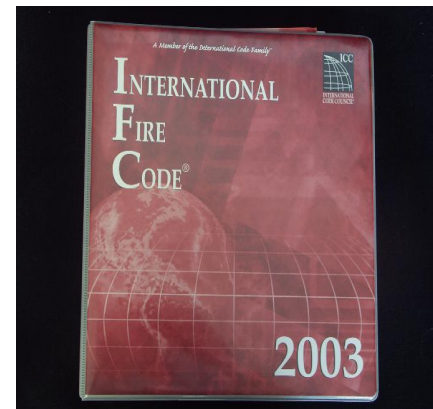
2006 Division Reports

Fire Prevention – Inspections

Each year the Department conducts the annual fire and life safety inspection program in commercial businesses, industry, and other special occupancies throughout the City. Fire and life safety code requirements are based on the **International Fire Code**, as adopted by City ordinance.

The majority of **fire inspections** are conducted by the on-duty firefighters. The inspections not only serve as an important part of the overall fire prevention effort, they also provide an opportunity for firefighters to walk through the majority of the structures in the City, enabling them to become familiar with their layout, their contents, and their construction.

2006 Inspection Activity	
Total Inspections	1507
Occupancy Permits	319



2006 Division Reports

Fire Prevention – Plan Review

During the **plan review** process, the Fire & Rescue Department works closely with the Planning, Building, Engineering, and Water Departments to ensure that all new developments and buildings meet the intent of the International Fire and Building Codes as well as other applicable National Standards.

Plans for developments, buildings, fire sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, commercial cooking suppression systems, and other specialized fire protection systems are reviewed. A construction permit system is used to document the plan review, inspections, and acceptance testing of fire protection system projects. The total permit fee revenue for 2006 was \$12,110.

2006 Plan Review Activity	
Fire Alarm Reviews	9
Sprinkler System Reviews	9
Fuel Storage Tanks	45
Commercial Cooking Operations	12
Other (Special Events and Fireworks)	15

2006 Division Reports

Fire & Injury Prevention – Public Education

The most cost-effective way to prevent fires or injuries in our community is to educate the public about fire safety and injury prevention. A vital part of any effective fire or injury prevention program is an active **public education** effort. The Wenatchee Fire & Rescue Department provides a variety of public education programs, and partners with other public safety agencies and organizations in our community, to provide **thousands of contacts each year to audiences of all ages.**

2006 Public Education	
Activity	Contacts
School Programs	550
Station Tours	534
Fire Safety Presentations & Fire Extinguisher Demos	265
Fire Aid & CPR Classes	110
Emergency Preparedness	50
Other Events	?

2006 Division Reports

Fire & Injury Prevention – Public Education Events



Home Show – March 2006



Safety Day - May 2006



Apple Blossom – May 2006



EMS Conference – September 2006

2006 Division Reports

Fire Prevention – Investigations

While the total number of **fire investigations** in the City was down in 2006, the Department provided the lead investigator for two Chelan County investigations, coordinated a regional investigation for a fatality fire, and requested assistance from federal ATF investigators and Regional investigators to work with Department investigators for the December 19, 2006 Davis Furniture Warehouse Fire.

2006 Investigation Activity	
Fire Investigations	14
Regional Investigations (Provided Lead Investigator)	2
Fatality Investigation (Regional Investigation Team)	1
Major Investigation (Davis Furniture Warehouse) •ATF Investigators (12) •Regional Investigators (8) •Department Investigators (5)	1

2006 Division Reports

Emergency Management – NIMS Compliance

In March 2004, the Secretary of Homeland Security, at the request of the President, released the **National Incident Management System (NIMS)**. The NIMS is a comprehensive system that requires all federal, state and local jurisdictions to adopt and use the Incident Command System (ICS) in response operations. It applies standardized procedures and promotes cross-jurisdictional coordination and assistance for large-scale or complex incidents.

2006 Compliance Activities for the City included:

- Recognizing NIMS and adopting NIMS principles and policies (completed by Resolution No. 2005-22)
- Completing the NIMS awareness course (IS-700: An Introduction to NIMS) for all responding personnel in the City (Fire, Police, Public Works)
 - 120 City personnel have completed this training.
- Additional training in ICS was completed by 22 personnel
- Staff officers in Fire and Police completed FEMA IS-800: An Introduction to the National Response Plan

Incident Command



Red Lion Command



Warehouse Command

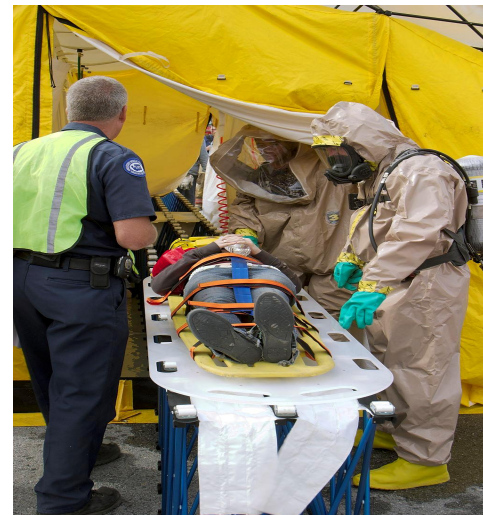
2006 Division Reports

Emergency Management – Regional Exercises

2006 ALCOA Exercise

On September 13, 2006 the City Fire and Police participated in the Alcoa/Chelan County Emergency Management Exercise. The exercise was designed to test the capacity of Fire Departments, SWAT, Police, Sheriff Officers, Red Cross, Alcoa Guard and Fire Brigade, PUD, Medical EMS Providers, and Elected Officials to mitigate a terrorist incident at Alcoa. The one-day exercise focused on multi-jurisdictional cooperative response with emphasis upon interagency use of ICS and Unified Command methodology.

While the Police Department participated in SWAT and Command Post activities, the Fire & Rescue Department's participation focused on Hazardous Materials response and Mass Decontamination at both participant, supervision, and evaluator roles.



Major Events / News of 2006

Fatality Fire

On July 31, 2006 the Department responded to a structure fire at 1450 Castlerock Street (Castlerock Apartments). The first arriving units found ground floor apartment #1403 charged with smoke. The first fire suppression crew (Engine 41) extinguished the fire and preformed a primary search of the apartment. During further overhaul of the fire still burning in the bathroom, the firefighters discovered the body of fire victim Gladys C. Wright (87 YOF). The victim was located in the area of origin. A Regional Fire Investigation Team was requested to work with Wenatchee Police Detectives on the investigation. The cause of the fire was classified as "Accidental" (NFPA 921:16.2.1). The Coroners report indicated that the victim had died from smoke inhalation. The probable ignition source was a candle that ignited the victim's clothing. The victim's age and recent illness was a contributing factor.



Davis Furniture Warehouse Fire

On Tuesday morning, December 19th, at 07:30 a.m., the fire tones sounded throughout the valley for a commercial structure fire at the Davis Furniture Warehouse. The third alarm fire brought firefighters, engines, and aerial apparatus from surrounding fire districts and cities to help with the firefighting efforts. The fire was contained after seven hours and the fire crews remained on the scene for five days throughout the investigation. The danger of structural collapse made overhaul difficult and hot spots filled with sawdust insulation were seen smoking for a week. Twelve ATF Investigators joined eight Regional Investigators and four Department Investigators for the three day investigation. The estimated losses from the fire were at 2.5 to 3 million dollars. The cause of the fire was classified as Undetermined pending ATF lab results and the final investigation origin and cause report prepared by ATF.



2007 GOALS

An annual report on the activities of 2006 would not be complete without a forward look and plan for 2007.

- **Establish new 2007 Fire Administration team with new Fire Chief, new Administrative Assistant and other Fire Officers.**
- **Begin process to develop three to five year strategic plan for department.**
- **Continue Department SOP/SOG update program and complete computer access program.**
- **Complete implementation of Firehouse records management program.**
- **Complete promotional exams and establish current eligibility lists for Captain and Engineer positions.**
- **Continue cooperative services with CCFD#1 through the Fire Service Committee.**
- **Coordinate 2007 NIMS compliance for City.**
- **Continue Labor/Management meetings and other improved communication forums with Local 453 leadership and members.**
- **Host annual Wenatchee Fire Department Softball Tournament.**